IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Michael L. VAZQUEZ et al.) Group Art Unit: TBA
Serial No. TBA Divisional of U.S. Application) Examiner: TBA
Serial No. 09/655,844) Atty. Docket 101765.00005 (2703/9/DIV)
Filed: January 2, 2004)

For: Sulfonylalkanoylamino Hydroxyethylamino Sulfonamides Useful as

RETROVIRAL PROTEASE INHIBITORS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned patent application, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment. It is believed that no fee is due for filing this Preliminary Amendment. However, if there is a fee, please debit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

An Amendments to the Specification section begins on page 2 of this paper.

A LISTING OF CLAIMS reflects claim amendments and begins on page 3 of this paper.

A REMARKS section begins on page 5 of this paper.